

INK SLINGS.

Vaccination wouldn't be such a bad thing if it were not for the taking way it has.

Of course all our hens will start to lay now that the price of eggs has gone down.

No, it was not a Mid-Summer Night's Dream, the Coleville band was really out on Monday night.

All stories to the contrary notwithstanding it was the wind that caused the spire on the Presbyterian church to fall.

Whatever else the Progressives at Harrisburg may be they are still Republicans when it comes to handing out the jobs on the Hill.

It hasn't been a very cold winter but those fifty-seven Democrats at Harrisburg are under the impression that they are getting about all the snow water they want.

Developments at Harrisburg are gradually verifying the WATCHMAN'S prediction of a month ago that the new Legislature in Pennsylvania isn't going to give PENROSE many kicks with a frozen boot.

Really it would be interesting to know which one State chairman GUTHRIE considers the better Democrat, BENSON and MATT, Progressives, who deserted him at Harrisburg or JOHN FLYNN, "the gang Democrat from Elk," who stood loyally by him.

Mr. WILSON doesn't want an inaugural ball as part of the ceremonies following his induction into the Presidency. WOODROW evidently isn't a master of the turkey trot, the bunny hug, the jelly-fish wobble and those other terpsichorean productions of the Progressives in dancing.

While drilling a well for a St. Louis brewery a vein of gas sufficiently strong to furnish all the fuel for the plant was struck. No wonder candidate for President CHAFIN has declared that the Prohibition movement is losing ground. The teetotalers can't meet this kind of competition.

It was customary for men to wear their hats at the table in the seventeenth century, but in this glorious year of our Lord, 1913, the women have so completely usurped the right that few men even stop to think that it is only one of the many that woman is insidiously euchreing them out of.

After hearing JANE ADDAMS, at State College on Saturday night, some of her auditors came to the conclusion that if she is "the foremost woman in America," she must have attained the position after the command: "To the rear, March!" had been executed by the other women in the pursuit of greatness.

According to its annual report the Armour & Co. corporation earned a surplus of twenty-eight per cent. on its stock, including the watered variety, during last year, in addition to the usual dividends. Of course if there had been legitimate competition in the meat trade the dividends would have absorbed the profits of this corporation and the people would have had to pay a good deal less for meat.

Governor WILSON'S latest announcement concerning a Republican office holder in New Jersey isn't very comforting to the fellows who are looking for jobs under President WILSON. When he made the statement to the effect that he sees no reason for dislodging a competent Republican official merely because he is a Republican it was tantamount to an announcement that federal offices won't be as easy to get as might have been supposed.

Mr. VANCE McCORMICK'S Harrisburg Patriot is having the time of its life telling how the Progressives have betrayed their trust and their constituents at Harrisburg. It is really busier now calling everybody who failed to stand for them the same name. If the Patriot had been inspired by high motives last year we would sympathize with its professed disappointment of today, but it wasn't. KITS and MATT and BENSON are only looking out for their own interests now, just as the Patriot's editor was when he decided that the party needed reorganization so that in the event of the election of a Democratic President he could help hand out the patronage.

The Grangers of Pennsylvania would chase The Pennsylvania State College back again to its days as the Farmer's High School. The present generation of Grangers seem to know nothing about the fact that it was the open opposition of their forbears that made the early life of the Farmer's High School and Agricultural College precarious indeed and had it not been for the support brought to it in the crisis by the engineering branches then inaugurated there might be no great institution at all today. While we believe agriculture should have every chance possible at State we also believe the arts and sciences should have the same chance, for what more right does the poor farmer's boy have to an education at the State's ONLY institution of learning than the poor mechanic's boy, the poor miner's boy, the poor merchant's boy or any other boy whose parents are unable to send him to another college.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Mr. Shaffer's Party Fidelity.

The esteemed Pittsburgh Post which bolted the Democratic nominee for Governor in 1910 and has given halting and irregular support to Democratic principles for many years, is greatly outraged because Hon. CHARLES A. SHAFFER, Democratic nominee for Speaker at the organization of the Legislature, voted for Mr. ALTER, one of the Republican candidates. Mr. SHAFFER has explained to our Pittsburgh contemporary that he was influenced by a rule of courtesy almost as old as parliamentary history. Mr. ALTER, a rival for the honor had voted for him and he returned the compliment, as every Democratic nominee for Speaker had done from time immemorial. So long as Mr. ALTER voted for another candidate and the other candidate voted for Mr. ALTER, Mr. SHAFFER refrained from voting. But when ALTER, whose name was called first voted for Mr. SHAFFER, he had no alternative, and courteously and properly voted for ALTER.

That Mr. SHAFFER'S vote helped to elect Mr. ALTER to the office was an unimportant incident. Mr. ALTER would have been elected without the vote of Mr. SHAFFER as four other Democrats, under no obligation of courtesy or precedent, voted for the successful candidate, making his total 105 when only 104 were necessary. These four are Democrats tainted with the virus of Keystonism and probably were more inclined toward the candidate ostensibly of the Bull Moose force than that of the Democrats. One of these, and among the first to join the ALTER force was the member defeated by Mr. SHAFFER for the Democratic nomination, and against whom the esteemed Post seems to have no complaint. If those, who are without excuse for recency, had remained steadfast, Mr. SHAFFER might have discharged his obligation to courtesy and custom, without electing Mr. ALTER or impairing the solidarity of the Democratic force.

Mr. SHAFFER is not amenable to the charge of party infidelity any more than CHAMP CLARK was at the time of his election to the Speakership of the House of Representatives in Washington or than Mr. ALTER himself was when he voted for Mr. SHAFFER. As a matter of fact Mr. SHAFFER has always been faithful to his party obligations which is the principal reason for his nomination for the office. Two years ago when the Democrats nominated our own justly esteemed fellow citizen, Mr. J. CALVIN MEYER, and a considerable proportion of the Democratic members voted for the Keystone candidate, Mr. SHAFFER was loyal to his party obligations and honored himself as well as the party by voting for Mr. MEYER. In all his political career he has been equally faithful and the charge made by the Pittsburgh Post that he was faithless this year is a calumny which we cannot let pass without protest.

Ruinous Rate of Taxation.

Some York county school teachers, in convention assembled, the other day, adopted a resolution declaring that too much money is expended by the government annually in preparation for war. There seems to be a mania in Washington for more battleships and a greater number of soldiers and all sorts of reasons are given for increasing the expenses of the War and Navy departments. The latest in this line is the Panama canal. Millions will be required to erect and equip fortifications and it is now estimated that an army of nearly twenty-five thousand troops will be necessary to man the fortifications and patrol the zone.

It is small wonder that school teachers are becoming alarmed at this trend of affairs. It has been shown that in this State the taxation for all local purposes averages twelve dollars a head of the population, including women and children. The State tax being indirect, can only be conjectured, but will probably amount to half that of the local levy. The taxation for the general government is also indirect, in the form of internal and customs levies, but will easily aggregate as much as the State tax. That would make a total of \$24 per capita in taxation for all purposes and is a ruinous rate.

The Democratic Party Betrayed.

In the completion of the organization of the House of Representatives, at Harrisburg, on Monday, the recency of Representatives MATT, of Bedford, and BENSON, of McKean, was again revealed. As members of the committee on committees those gentlemen hastened to the support of Boss FLINN'S men for chief and resident clerks and prevented the nomination of a Democrat for one or the other of these important offices. A combination of the Democrats and the so-called Progressives in the committee might have formed an invincible force, but BENSON and MATT, zealous in the service of the new boss, gave everything that was possible to give to the Bull Mooseers, with the result that Democrats were alienated from the slate and it was finally smashed by the PENROSE machine. When the Democratic members of the House reached Harrisburg, on Monday, and discovered that they had been betrayed, they assembled in caucus and by unanimous vote repudiated the action of their recreant representatives in the committee. Notwithstanding this rebuke MATT and BENSON voted against the party nominees for chief clerk and resident clerk and adhered to the support of the Bull Moose candidates. As the balloting proceeded the real Bull Mooseers gradually abandoned their candidates and joined the forces of the PENROSE machine. The result was logical and inevitable. The PENROSE candidates were elected and the organization was practically turned over to that atrocious combination of spoilsmen. The Democrats were simply "double-crossed" by this pair of party recreants.

It is true that out of the wreck caused by treachery a few minor places were secured for Democrats. But those who were thus favored are under no obligations to Representatives BENSON and MATT. Representative FLINN, of Elk county, wrung the concessions from the stalwarts and Progressives and the successful stalwarts themselves yielded sufficiently to the spirit of fairness to carry out their agreement. If all the Democrats had been faithful to party obligations both in the committee and upon the floor of the House, one of the two important offices would have gone to them. But the party was betrayed in the house of its friends, and the PENROSE machine was practically restored to power by the treachery of two recreants. Yet these are the kind of men, who make loud boasts of what they did to "reorganize" the party and how progressive they are, upon whom the organization now relies.

Collier's Weekly a Bad Adviser.

In Collier's of the date of Saturday last there appeared an editorial highly commendatory of Secretary of the Interior FISHER and suggesting that notwithstanding his politics he be retained in the cabinet of the incoming President. On the same day in Washington, before a Congressional committee, ALBERT L. WILSON, solicitor for the Uncle Sam Oil company, of Arizona, testified that "the Standard Oil company had used the Postoffice and Interior departments and Federal Judges of Kansas, Missouri and other western States to destroy his company and keep it from leasing Osage Indian lands." He gave instances, moreover, in which Secretary FISHER has tricked Indians into leasing lands to the Standard.

As things go the accusations against the Secretary of the Interior are of little consequence. Mr. FISHER'S predecessor in office was charged with even graver offenses and held his job for months against all charges until he voluntarily retired from office to save TAFT from political injury. It is small wonder therefore, that through the machinations of Secretary FISHER and others in authority the opponents of the Standard Oil company were prevented from laying their grievances before the President, and that Osage Indians were threatened with arrest by Secretary FISHER for the reason that they refused to lease their lands to the Standard. All these things are in accord with the record of the TAFT administration.

We refer to it, therefore, not in the hope of changing conditions while the present administration continues, but in order to show the utter worthlessness of Collier's as an adviser of a President. This journal impudently arrogates to itself the right to dictate to all parties but rarely, if ever, has a good word for a Democrat. During the recent campaign, though the champion muckraker, it couldn't say a word of evil against WOODROW WILSON but finally turned its columns over to the laudation of ROOSEVELT, though the testimony of the witness in question incriminated him in the scandal referred to.

For high class Job Work come to the WATCHMAN Office.

The Committee on Committees.

The committee on committees of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg has completed its work but time alone can determine with what result. The committee labored assiduously and according to the newspaper reports, unselfishly, in an effort to fabricate a code of rules which would expedite business and guarantee fairness to all concerned. The Legislature of Pennsylvania had degenerated into a machine for the expression of the will of the party bosses. Its rules had been perverted into an agency to promote this result. The committee on committees, which was in session at Harrisburg nearly all last week, has endeavored to alter these conditions with a result which remains to be seen.

Of one thing, however, the people of the State may rest confident. The Standing committees will not, hereafter, be instruments of injustice in the hands of the Speaker. For the present session, under a rule adopted by the House immediately after the organization, there is likely to be little improvement for the majority of the committee selected the members of committees for the minority. But the committee adopted, for the future, the policy proposed by the Democrats at the organization, namely, that in future the minority shall select its own committees and thus become a potential element in the work of preparing as well as passing legislation.

Another work of the committee on committees was to divide the favors of the Legislature, in the ratio of strength, among the various elements composing the body. That is to say the Democrats will get a share in the offices of the Legislature according to their strength under the new rules. This will meet with popular approval, not because the public is greatly interested in the spoils of office, but for the reason that it will put checks on the majority. Now if the House will cut out all the redundant offices and conduct the business of the Legislature as economically as possible, the new order of things will become a matter of some public value. Let us hope for such a result.

For Democrats to Think Over.

It is interesting to reflect upon the achievements of the leaders of the reorganized Democracy in Pennsylvania at the recent election as shown by the Presidential vote in comparison with that cast in 1908. Bryan in 1908 received 448,782 votes, whereas Wilson received but 395,619, or 53,163 less than Bryan. This tremendous defection of Democratic votes is amazing and alarming. The attempted reformation by the reorganization leaders has suddenly wrought a complete Democratic disintegration in Pennsylvania. The reorganizers apparently developed very rapidly into disorganizers. Whether this revision downward will continue causes great anxiety in the minds of thousands of Pennsylvania Democrats. The reorganizers ought to hide their heads in shame and disgrace.

A new party born August last—within three months of the election—polled 48,807 more votes than Governor Wilson. What a showing to make and present to a distinguished Democratic President. At Baltimore the New York delegates were for Governor Wilson last, and not first, last and all the time, as was Pennsylvania; but Wilson carried New York over 200,000. The total anti-Wilson vote in Pennsylvania was 820,885—the largest anti-Democratic vote in the history of the State. It is admitted that President Wilson received from 45,000 to 59,000 Republican votes in Pennsylvania; whereas Mr. Bryan received but few, if any, Republican votes in 1908, because the vote cast for Taft in 1908 was greater by 25,548 than the combined vote of Roosevelt and Taft this fall. There can be but one logical explanation of the extremely small Democratic vote cast for President Wilson, and that is, the Democratic reorganization leaders in less than six months, by their incompetency and selfishness, diverted over 100,000 Democratic votes from President Wilson in Pennsylvania and caused the party to be reduced to the lowest ebb in its history.

Little Brothers of the Great.

Brother Joseph R. Wilson is more or less seriously proposed as a compromise candidate for Senator in Tennessee, where Democratic factions are fighting so fiercely as to threaten a deadlock in the Legislature and a vacant seat on the Democratic side of the United States Senate. By all means, send him along. It would be a novelty to see a President Charles P. Taft started for the Senate, but the President felt obliged to pull him out of the race. It is doubtful, however, if any other brother of a President has come as near as that to political importance and distinction.

Why do great men so seldom come in pairs? Napoleon strove loyally to lift his brood of brothers from the common level, but he had a hard time holding them up. Yet there are empires where the line of succession is from brother to brother.

Often, yet rarely enough, genius passes from father to son. Perhaps there are more instances of it skipping from the straight line and lighting upon a nephew, as most conspicuously, from Julius Caesar to Augustus. Furthermore, nephew Napoleon III was the only kinsman of the great emperor to seize a crown with his own hands.

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Thieves broke open several box cars at the New York Central station at Philadelphia and made a poor haul, but managed to supply themselves with tobacco.

Ten Williamsport pastors used a page in the local papers last Saturday and they estimate the increase in their congregations, due to the advertisement, at between 400 to 600.

Watsonstown business men are objecting to free mail delivery. They say the obstacle is in the numbering of houses, but it is thought they fear being made a branch of the Milton office.

Within one week Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bowers, near Indiana, have buried two sons and one daughter of scarlet fever and diphtheria. The daughter was 16 and the sons 11 and 6 respectively.

Renovo council has been returned by constables for not having the streets of the town in proper condition. The same course is being taken at Lock Haven. Both towns plead lack of funds.

Five years ago W. Roy Stokes, aged 12, was drowned at Coral, Indiana county, in an unsuccessful attempt to save the lives of three little girls. Recently his father received a medal and \$1,000.

Justed for stealing \$118 from a man named Conner Ellen Reeder defiantly stated that she proposed to keep it. She had been keeping house for Conner for three years and hadn't had any wages.

The Loyal Order of Moose at Huntingdon is short \$1,400 to \$1,500 and the treasurer, M. A. Shoffner, of Saxton, is under arrest. This is the second heavy loss for the Huntingdon order.

Dr. William Blesh, the oldest practicing dentist in Lock Haven, was found dying in his laboratory by two ladies who called at his office a few days ago. He was 68 years old and death was due to uremic convulsions.

Ben Baxter, of Sandy Hollow, has confessed to a number of robberies in Perry county and exonerated others who were charged with being implicated. W. Lauer, who had been held in jail, was cleared and discharged.

For the third time within a short period, the safe of the Fraternal Order of Eagles at Lewistown has been robbed. As the trick was done by some one who knew the combination, suspicion narrows down to a few of the members.

The latest movement in the effort to save the life of John O. Keeler, under sentence of death for the murder of Joseph W. Roessler, the Clearfield brewer, which occurred on the 14th of September last, is to take the case before the Board of Pardons.

There is a commotion at Garrett and Somer, set over the finding and burial of a skeleton near the former place. The coroner wasn't notified and as this is the third body to be found there within five years, the superstitious people are in terror.

George Merlock, of Paxinos, had a narrow escape from decapitation a few days ago. He was examining the knives in the fodder shredder when his clothing caught and he was drawn in. A deep gash had been cut in his jaw before the machine stopped.

Coal township, Northumberland county, supervisors cut down four shade trees belonging to J. C. Moore, in widening a road. Mr. Moore sued and obtained a verdict of \$500 for four trees. The supervisors asked a new trial, but their appeal was refused.

A few days ago the body of a man was seen floating down the creek near Milton by Esther Omsa, a school girl. There was great excitement about the matter until it was ascertained that a dummy used in an after-election parade at Benton had about that time been thrown into the stream.

Indiana county commissioners are being censured for burying a county home inmate "in a cornfield." They explain that as the State allows only \$20 for an indigent person's funeral, the commissioners were obliged to establish a burial ground on the county farm and the lady in question happened to be reposed there. Hence the stir.

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The members of the several Methodist churches of Altoona are making elaborate preparations for the entertainment of the 300 or more ministers who will attend the annual Central Pennsylvania conference of the Methodist Episcopal church which will be held in that city during the week beginning March 12 in the First M. E. church.

T. F. Parker and Carl McDermott made their escape from the Clinton county jail early Thursday morning by digging a hole through the wall from their second cell, bridged the distance to the wall and letting themselves down outside by means of a rope made of their blankets. The men separated after leaving the jail and are being hunted in every direction.

Former Judge John T. Blair, of Indiana county, died recently at Indiana, aged 89 years. He studied law with Horace S. Blair, of Holidayburg, and during his judicial career enjoyed the distinction of not having a decision reversed by the Supreme court. He was district attorney of Lawrence county before the Civil war and served throughout that struggle.

Michael Dayton, aged 33 years, arose and left his home at Renovo at 4:30 Saturday morning. He was accustomed to arise early and when later it was found he had gone out no alarm was felt until evening, it being supposed he had gone to spend the day with a friend. He was last seen near the river and it was feared that he fell into the stream and that his body was carried away by the high water.

The Locomotion County Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis has been keeping up an open air school in Williamsport for tubercular children. Health Officer Youngman has discovered that 100 more little folks need the same chance and the society is short of funds. The school board pays the teachers, but the blankets and extra clothing and the noon lunches are furnished by the society. Most of the children come from poor homes and are insufficiently clothed and fed.

Nine-year-old John Rohrer, of Williamsport, slipped from a log into the Susquehanna river on Sunday afternoon, while his parents thought he was elsewhere and waited in vain for his return. The lad had gone out with his father's consent and with two older boys went to the river bank. The other sons tired throwing stones into the water, but Johnny lingered and when they called him he had disappeared. They were too frightened to tell the truth until late in the evening and search for the body was consequently delayed. It was recovered late on Monday.

James B. F. Kinehart, former cashier and vice president of the Farmers and Drovers National bank of Waynesburg, Pa., was released from the Western Penitentiary last Wednesday after serving four years of a fifteen year sentence. The bank failed December 12, 1906. It is possible that the former banker will start life all over again in Waynesburg. Leading business men of Greene county will try to persuade him to go back there. His attorney, Col. E. L. Kearns, has received for him from business men through western States offers of many good positions. Mr. Kinehart was met by the prison doors by his family and remained in Pittsburgh several days to settle up some old business.